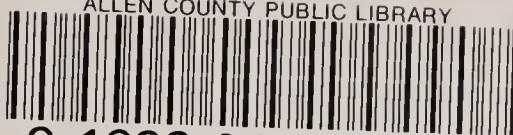


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ANCESTRY OF FREDERICK PHILIPSE

First Lord and Founder of Philipse Manor
at Yonkers, N. Y.

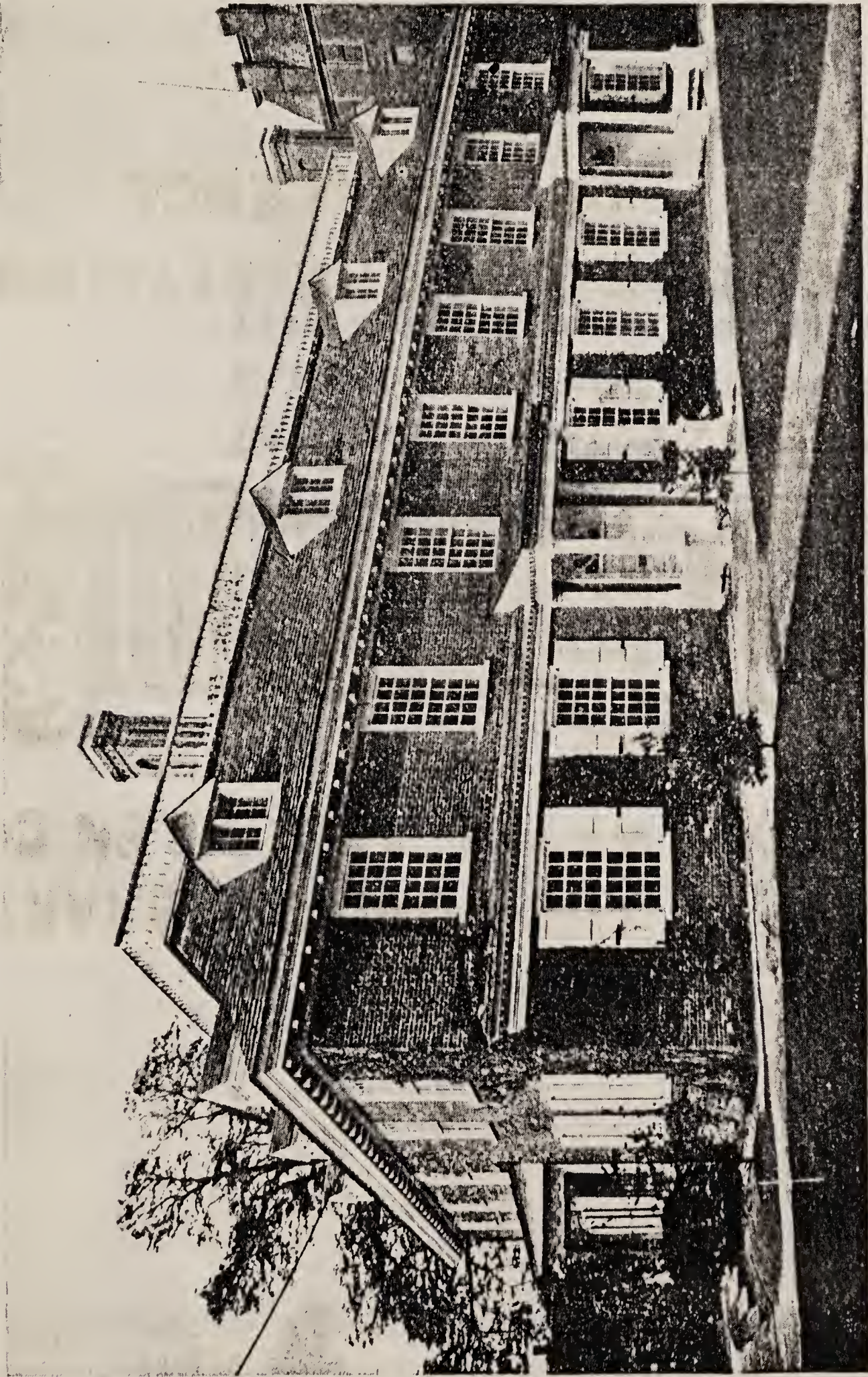
by THOMAS CAPEK
Author *Augustine Herrman of
Bohemia Manor, etc.*

THE PAEBAR COMPANY
New York
1939

ANCESTRY OF
FREDERICK PHILIPSE

First Lord and Founder of Philipse Manor
at Yonkers, N. Y.

1910089



Manor Hall at Yonkers, N. Y., to which foundation
was laid by Frederick Philipse in 1682.

9-22-76R

EXHIBIT
LIFE
OF
JUDITH A. PHILLIPS

*To the memory of the late JUDGE JOHN
C. KAREL of Milwaukee, Wis., son of
JOHN KAREL, a distinguished American
Czech pioneer.*

1866

ANCESTRY OF FREDERICK PHILIPSE

All biographers agree that Frederick Philipse, First Lord and founder of Philipse Manor, at Yonkers, adjoining New York City, was of Bohemian (Czech) birth or descent.

Robert Bolton, author of the history of Westchester County, writes on p. 508 as follows: "Frederick Philipse or (as the name was spelt at that early period) Vreedryk or Vrederyck Felypsen, was a native of Bohemia, while others say of Bolswert or Bolsward, in West or East Friesland, Holland, a small town near Wiewerd, where he was born, A. D. 1626. His father was the Honorable Viscount Felyps, of Bohemia, who sprang from the ancient Viscounts of that name and country. . . . From MSS. in the hand-writing of the late Hon. John Jay (himself a descendant of Eva Philipse) we learn that the first ancestor of the family who settled in this country was Frederick Flypson, and that he was a native of Bohemia, where the family, being Protestants, were persecuted. His mother, becoming a widow, was constrained to quit Bohemia with him and her other children. She fled to Holland with what little property she could save from the wreck of their estate. The amount of that little not permitting her to provide better for Frederick, she bound him to a carpenter, and he became an excellent workman. He emigrated to New York, which was then under the Dutch government, but in what year I'm not informed. . . ."

"Besides their high rank as nobles," continues Bolton, "Felypsens appear also to have held the office of Grand Veneurs, or keepers of the deer forests in Bohemia as there is still preserved the collar and badge of office, consisting of a gold chain set with amethysts, diamonds, rubies and emeralds to which was suspended a stag beautifully chased in gold."¹

The author had the historic jewel here described in his hands in 1889. It was then in the safekeeping of the family lawyer in New York. In recent years it passed into the possession of John Morris Robinson of St. John, N. B.

Frederick Hagaman Hall,² has this to say: "Viscount Philipse of Bohemia fled to Friesland, Holland, with his wife Eva and son Frederick. At Friesland the son married Margaret Dacres and there he died. The couple had a son Frederick born in 1626 at Bols-waert with whom the widowed Margaret emigrated to New Netherland, presumably in 1647." According to Hall, old time chroniclers spelled the name Philipse thirteen different ways: Flipse, Flypse, Flypsie, Filipzen, Filipzon, Felypsen, Felypson, Flipson, Philipsen, Phillipse, Philips, Phillips, Philipse.

¹ Robert Bolton. The History of the several Towns, Manors and Patents of the County of Westchester from its first settlement to the present time (New York 1848).

² Frederick Hagaman Hall. Philipse Manor Hall at Youkers, N. Y. (New York 1912).

Lineage—(PHILIPS).—FREDERICK FELYPSEN, of Bolswaart, Holland, of a noble family in Bohemia, emigrated from East Friesland to New Amsterdam in 1658. He *m.* Margaret Dacres, and left a son,

FREDERICK FELYPSEN or Philipse, of Philipsbourg, *b.* 1656; *m.* Catherine, widow of John Derval, and dau. of Rt. Hon. Oliver Stephen Van Cortlandt. Her will was dated 7 Jan. 1730. His will was dated 9 Dec. 1702. They had with other issue,

1. Philip, of Spinghead Barbados, *b.* 1676; *m.* 1694-5, Maria, dau. of — Sparkes. She *d.* 1700. He *d. n. p.* 1697, leaving a son, FREDERICK, heir to his grandfather.

The grandson,

FREDERICK PHILIPSE, of Philipsbourg, *b.* 1698; *m.* Joanna, dau. of Anthony Brockholes, Governor of New York. His will was dated 6 June, 1751. He had issue,

1. FREDERICK, of whom presently.
2. Philip, of the Highland Upper Patent, *b.* 1724; *m.* Margaret Marston. She *m.* 2ndly, Dr. Richard John Ogilvie (who *d.* 1774). Philip Philipse, *d.* 1768, leaving issue.
 1. Susannah, *b.* 27 Sept. 1727; *m.* Col. Beverley Robinson, of Virginia, brother of Christopher Robinson, ancestor of ROBINSON, Bart. (*see BURKE'S Peerage and Baronetage*). They had issue.
 2. Mary, *b.* 3 July, 1730; *m.* 19 Jan. 1758, Col. Roger Morris, and *d.* 18 July, 1825, leaving issue (*see MORRIS, of York*).
 3. Margaret, *d. unm.* 1752.

The elder son,

COL. FREDERICK PHILIPSE, of Philipsbourg, *m.* Elizabeth, dau. of Charles Williams, and widow of — Rutgards. He *d.* about 1785, leaving issue, three sons and four daus. The eldest son,

FREDERICK PHILIPSE, of Ashley Hall, co. Warwick, and of Rhüal, Flints, *jure uxoris*, and late of Philipsbourg, in America, *m.* 14 April, 1792, Henrietta Maria, dau. of Thomas Griffith, of Rhüal (*see GRIFFITH family above*). She *d.* 1843, leaving with other issue, an only son,

COL. FREDERICK CHARLES PHILIPS, of Rhüal, Flintshire, served with the 15th Dragoons in the Peninsular War and at Waterloo. He was *b.* 1 Feb. 1793; *m.* 8 March, 1826, Margaret Jane, dau. of John Palliser, of Derryluskan (*see that family*). He *d.* 1858, leaving issue, two sons and two daus. The younger son,

CAPT. EDWIN WILLIAM PHILIPS, of Rhüal, Flintshire, J.P., High Sheriff, 1872, served in the 36th and 56th Regts., present at Sebastopol, *b.* 8 April, 1830; *m.* June, 1863, Fanny Louisa, dau. of Col. George W. Eyres, Gren. Guards. She *d.* 1903. He *d.* 15 Nov. 1875, leaving issue,

1. BASIL EDWIN, now of Rhüal.
2. Frederick Van Courtland (*United Service Club, Dublin*), *b.* 29 Oct. 1870; *m.* 5 Nov. 1902, Louisa Charlotte, dau. of Rev. J. H. Bor, M.A.
 1. Mabel Louisa, *b.* 5 Feb. 1867; *m.* 27 June, 1900, William Hugh Cooke (*Llwynegryn, Mold, Flintshire*), son of Col. Davies Cooke, of Colomendy, co. Denbigh, and has issue (*see COOKE of Oruston*).

Seat—Rhüal, Mold, Flintshire.

Frederick Philipse's Lineage on p. 1409 of Burke's Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain.



The hereditary badge of the ancestral office of the keeper of the deer forests of Bohemia. If the jewel is turned upside down, we get a perfect contour of a bull's head.

Several years ago, when the writer was revising for publication one of his works, in which considerable space is allotted to Philipse-Felypsen, he sent a drawing of the Philipse coat of arms to Vojtech Král z Dobré Vody,³ a recognized authority on Bohemian heraldry and asked his opinion concerning it. Král answered that he was unable to connect the crest submitted to him with that of any titled family domiciled in the Bohemian Kingdom in the 17th century; that he could not find in the roster of indigenous nobility a Viscount Felypsen; and lastly, that it was not Viscount Felypsen but Count Vchynsky who held, at the time in question, the office of the royal keeper of the deer forests of Bohemia.

Anton Peter Slechta, Czech genealogist, examined the state archives and genealogical and heraldic collections at Prague; checked off the name index, history and coat of arms of every titled family in Bohemia, extinct and existing; studied the biographies of men who were on the proscribed list in connection with the rebellion of 1620; scrutinized and compared the heraldic insignia of every exile—all without result. The Philipse-Felypsens could not be found.

Dr. Otakar Odložilík, genealogist and historian of high repute was asked to go to Felypsen's reputed place of birth in Holland and examine records there. He

³ Vojtech Král z Dobré Vody. *Der Adel von Böhmen, Mähren und Schlesien* (Prague 1904).

reported as follows: "At your request I searched the archives at Leeuwarden, where 17th century Bolswaert records are kept, examining likewise the archives at Franeker, but I found no entry of the birth of Felypsen or Flypsen."⁴

The author believes that the only way to reconcile the two, tradition and fact, is to assume that Vrederyk Felypsen was none other than Filip Mouric, son of Count Vilem Vchynsky and that he had adopted a Dutch sounding name fashioned from his given name of Filip. That the surname Felypsen is a patronymic from Filip, Philip, is obvious. For the Dutch, Vchynsky was difficult to spell and pronounce. As a matter of fact, the Vchynsky family gave up later the old Czech form in favor of the present spelling Kinsky. "If Vrederyk was Filip Mouric Vchynsky," argues Slechta, "he had a very good reason to hide himself behind an assumed name. His father had been outlawed as a rebel and his property confiscated. Unpardoned by the Emperor, he was liable to be arrested and to lose what little remained of his paternal estate. His two elder brothers were, of course, similarly situated."

Philipse tradition speaks of a "widow constrained to quit Bohemia with him (Vrederyk) and her other children." Singularly enough, the mother of Filip Mouric was a widow and had to quit Bohemia with her children.

⁴Dr. Otakar Odložilík. *Vchynští ze Vchynic a Tetova v Nizozemí v XVI. a XVII. století* (Vchynskys of Vchynic and Tetov in Netherland in XVI. and XVII. centuries). (Prague 1927.)



Arms of the Vchynsky-Kinsky Family.



FREDERIK PHILIPSE ESQ

Arms of the Felypsen-Philipse Family.

Philipse tradition says that "Vrederyk, who first came to America had a brother named Adolphus." The genealogist of the Vchynsky-Kinsky family states that "the oldest son of Countess Vchynsky bore the name of Adolphus Arnost."

Another significant coincidence is, that Vchynsky—Kinsky disappeared from Holland after 1650, while Vrederyk Felypsen about the same time made his appearance in New Amsterdam.

Who are the Vchynskys who so mysteriously cross the path of the Philipases? The Vchynskys of Vchynic and Tetov, or Kinsky, to use the present form of the name, are one of the oldest and most prominent Czech

families. Their ancestry is traceable back to the 14th century. Already in the 16th century adventurous Vchynsky soldiers are known to have fought in the Dutch army against the Spaniards. Vchynskys intermarried with Dutch women. And like many other sons of nobles from Bohemia, Vchynsky youths studied in Dutch institutions of learning. So numerous and varied were the points of contact—religious, political, social—that, as Dr. Otakar Odlozilik remarks, "one may speak of a Dutch branch of the (Vchynsky) family."

The most noted exile of the Vchynsky clan enjoying Dutch hospitality in the 17th century was Radslav, the younger. There is preserved in the library at Leyden his last will and testament, written in German, dated 8. 1. 1660 and signed: Radislaus von Wchynitz und Tettau. A leading director of and soldier in the fateful

revolution against Ferdinand, the Emperor of Austria and King of Bohemia, Radslav escaped to Holland in the spring of 1621, after the defeat of the Protestant Army. The Liechtenstein Commission summoned him to appear in Prague and answer the charge of treason. For non-appearance on the return day of the summons, he was sentenced by judges to forfeit his life, his honor and his property. Radslav is said to have been master of eight languages, including Latin, in which latter tongue he composed excellent verse.

Radslav's brother William played a less conspicuous part in the rebellion. Probably due to this reason, the punishment meted out to him was less severe. In the end, however, William fell victim to the Hapsburg wrath. On February 25, 1634, he was assassinated as an alleged conspirator against Ferdinand at Eger, Bohemia, together with Wallenstein, general of the imperial army and Counts Trcka and Illow. His estates were confiscated. Elizabeth, his widow, escaped to Saxony with her three sons, Adolf Arnost, Oldrich (Ulrich), and Filip Mouric (Moritz). But not feeling quite safe in Saxony, on account of its nearness to Bohemia, she pushed further west to Holland, reaching the latter country some time in 1636. Because of her knowledge of the minutiae of the rebellion, she was looked upon as a particularly dangerous enemy of the reigning house. In a year or so she married Count Zdenek of Hodice, a Bohemian officer serving in the Swedish army, eventually settling with him in Hamburg. The sons continued to live with Radslav, their uncle, who put them in school at Leyden.



Beautiful Mary Philipse, sister of the Third Lord of the Manor, whom George Washington admired and wooed.

It was William who held the office and title of high veneur (in Czech nejvyšší lovčí, in German Erbjägermeister) from 1611 to 1619, and again from 1621 to 1628. Prior to 1611 the royal keeper was Count Vaclav Vchynsky, William's elder brother. In Peschek's German work on Bohemian exiles in Saxony occurs this reference to William: "1633 lebte als Exulant in Dresden ein Graf Kinsky, sonst Erbjägermeister in Böhmen, Schwager des Generals von Terzky (Trčka) und persönlicher Freund Wallensteins."

Adolf Arnost, the eldest, received a commission in the Dutch army and on becoming of age married at Utrecht the daughter of an Englishman named Killigrew. Later he embraced the Roman Catholic faith, which gave him a right of entry to Bohemia. There he enlisted in the Hapsburg army and met a soldier's death in 1658 at the siege of Thorn.

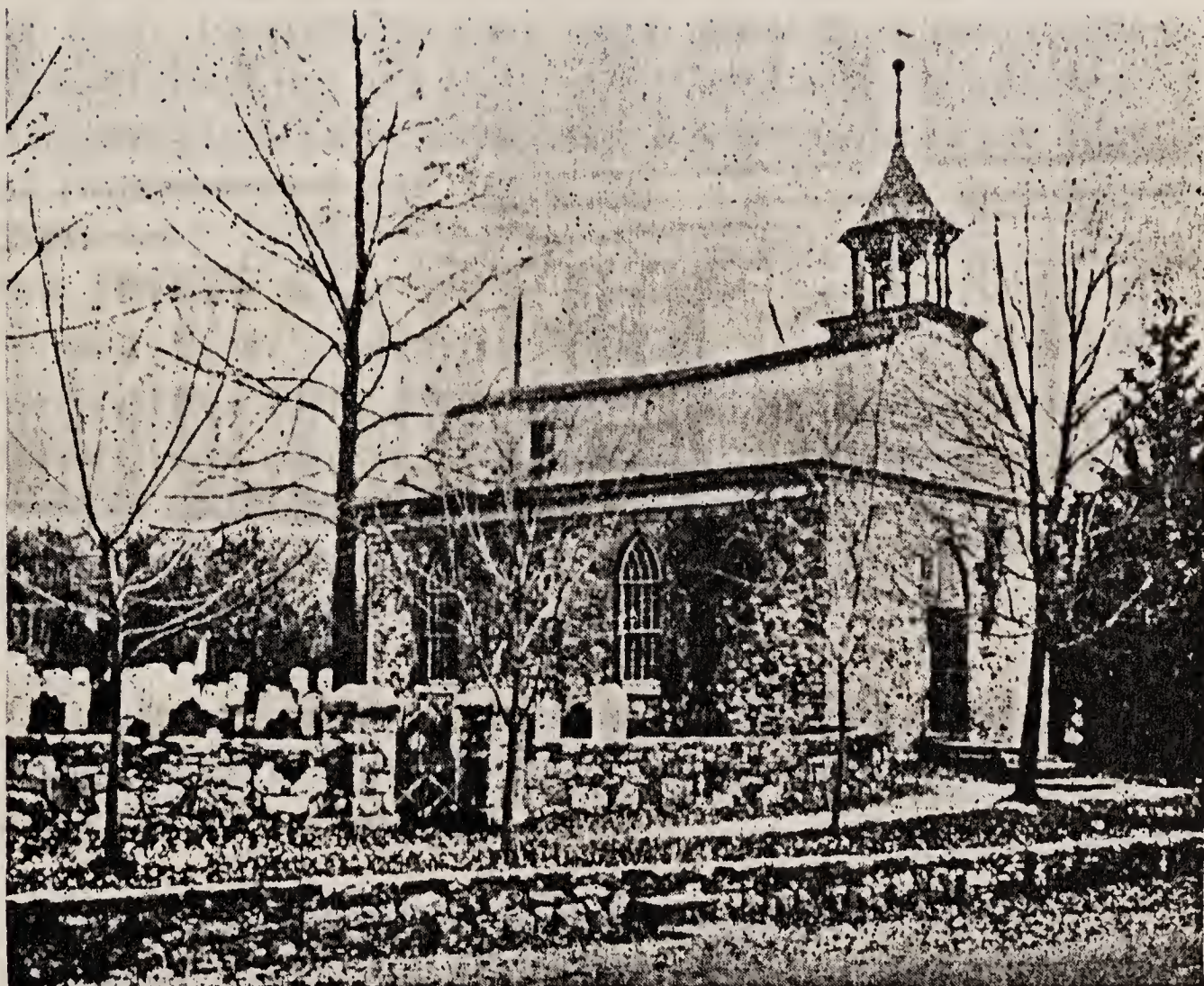
Unlike Adolf Arnost, Oldrich, the younger brother, refused to renounce his faith which, of course, barred him from re-entry to his native land. A soldier of fortune, he served as cavalry officer in various armies, dying in Saxony, 1687.

Concerning Filip Mouric, the youngest, least of all is known. He joined his brothers in 1650 in a petition to the Emperor asking for the restitution of their paternal estates. After this date all trace of him is lost. That he returned to Bohemia subsequent to the signing of the Peace of Westphalia (1648) is doubtful. He may have lived in Saxony or in some other part of the empire.

He may have gone back to Holland, where he had spent part of his youth under the protecting arm of uncle Radslav. Or, which is most likely, he sailed for Dutch America. Bohemian (Czech) refugees are known to have lived in New Amsterdam at that time. In the Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in Amsterdam and in various other contemporary sources we find names that are unmistakably Bohemian—Marschalek (Marschalik, Marschalk), Hallek (Hollok, Hollik, Hollek), Anna Popelar, John Luddra, Christian Dederer, Mathias Capito, Thomas Schadek, Matthew Cuta, Maria Hollaar, Thomas Hach, Albert Zaborowski. The most noted of these early settlers was Augustine Herrman, founder of the historic Bohemia Manor in Cecil County, Maryland. Curiously enough, chroniclers record two or three transactions the two, Felypsen and Herrman, had together. On May 8, 1653, Felypsen acted as appraiser of the property of his fellow countryman. In 1666 he bought from Herrman a parcel of land and two houses. This is the first time Philipse appears in documentary history as a resident of New Amsterdam. "New York was always a city of the world," remarks historian Bancroft. "Its settlers were relics of the first-fruits of the Reformation, chosen chiefly from the Belgic provinces and England, from France, Germany and Switzerland. And a few were the offspring of those early inquirers who listened to Huss in the heart of Bohemia."⁵

⁵ George Bancroft. *History of the United States of America*, vol. 1, p. 512. (New York 1866).

1910089



Church at Sleepy Hollow, erected by Philipse. One of the oldest places of worship in the State of New York.

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J. H. COLEMAN.

Frederick Philipse, First Lord and Founder of the Manor, died in New York in 1702 at the age of 76 years. Unfortunately, there is no portrait of him in the Manor Hall gallery that is positively identified.

The Philipses made two tragic mistakes. In the land of their forefathers they took part in a revolution against the King and lost. In the land of their adoption 158 years later, they joined the King's cause in the War of Independence and again lost. Their huge estates in New York comprising some 156,000 acres of land along the Hudson River from Spuyten Duyvill Creek to Croton River, a distance of some twenty-one miles—with farms, mills, stone residences, warehouses, tenants houses, lots, church, Negro slaves, cattle, horses, sheep—were confiscated and sold at auction by the State of New York. Utterly ruined, they left with other royalists for England.

In Great Britain a branch of the Philipses still exists. Descendants in New York are intermarried with prominent American families.

Two Philipse monuments have survived to this day. One is the little church at Sleepy Hollow and the other the venerable Manor Hall at Yonkers, of which the corner stone had been laid in 1682. After the War of Independence, says Edward Hagaman Hall, the estate was sold by the Commissioners of Forfeitures and gradually broken up into many small holdings. The Manor Hall, with the acre upon which it stands, passed through various intermediate owners until in

1868 it was acquired by the town of Yonkers, which used it as City Hall. Subsequently a patriotic woman purchased the property and donated it to the State of New York upon condition, that it "be preserved and maintained forever intact as an historical monument and a museum of historical relics and for such historical and patriotic uses." The State appointed the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society custodian of the Manor Hall.

